



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-523-814]

Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from the Sultanate of Oman: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that imports of common alloy aluminum sheet (aluminum sheet) from the Sultanate of Oman (Oman) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) for the period of investigation January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019.

DATES: Applicable [Insert date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chelsey Simonovich, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1979.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 15, 2020, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* its preliminary affirmative determination in the LTFV investigation of aluminum sheet from Oman, in which we also postponed the final determination until March 1, 2021.¹ We invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*. A summary of the events that occurred since

¹ See *Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from the Sultanate of Oman: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Postponement of Final Determinations*, 85 FR 65340 (October 15, 2020) (*Preliminary Determination*), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination*, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.²

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are aluminum sheet from Oman. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

Scope Comments

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments.³ We received comments from interested parties on the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, which we address in the Final Scope Decision Memorandum.⁴

Commerce is not modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Preliminary Determination*. *See* Appendix I for the final scope of the investigation.

Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs that were submitted by parties in this investigation are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice at Appendix II. The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly

² *See* Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from the Sultanate of Oman," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

³ *See* Memorandum, "Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from Bahrain, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, Oman, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated October 6, 2020 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁴ *See* Memorandum, "Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from Bahrain, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, Oman, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Final Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Final Scope Decision Memorandum).

at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn>. The signed and electronic versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Verification

Commerce was unable to conduct on-site verification of the information relied upon in making its final determination in this investigation. However, we took additional steps in lieu of an on-site verification to verify the information relied upon in making this final determination, in accordance with section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).⁵

Changes Since the Preliminary Determination

Based on our analysis of the comments received and our findings related to our request for information in lieu of on-site verification, we made certain changes to the margin calculations. For a discussion of these changes, *see* the “Changes from the Preliminary Determination” section of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

In accordance with section 733(e) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206, we preliminarily determined that critical circumstances did not exist with respect to imports of aluminum sheet from OARC or for all other exporters or producers not individually examined. For this final determination, our preliminary determination remains unchanged. Accordingly, pursuant to section 735(a)(3) of the Act, we find that critical circumstances do not exist with respect to imports of aluminum sheet from OARC or all other exporters or producers not individually examined. For a full description of the methodology and results of Commerce’s analysis, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

⁵ *See* Commerce’s Letter, “In Lieu of Verification Supplemental,” dated December 16, 2020; *see also* OARC’s Letter, “Common Alloy Aluminum Sheet from Oman: Response to Questionnaire in Lieu of Verification,” dated December 23, 2020.

Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters not individually investigated shall be equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated excluding rates that are zero, *de minimis*, or determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. Commerce calculated an individual estimated weighted-average dumping margin for Oman Aluminium Rolling Company (OARC), the only individually examined exporter/producer in this investigation. Because the only individually calculated dumping margin is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available, the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for OARC is the margin assigned to all other producers and exporters, pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act.

Final Determination

The final estimated weighted-average dumping margins are as follows:

Exporter/Producer	Estimated Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)
Oman Aluminium Rolling Company	5.29
All Others	5.29

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed in this final determination within five days of the date of publication of this notice to parties in this proceeding in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all appropriate entries of aluminum sheet from Oman, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are

entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after October 15, 2020, the date of publication in the *Federal Register* of the affirmative *Preliminary Determination*.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for such entries of merchandise equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the respondent listed above will be equal to the respondent-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin determined in this final determination; (2) if the exporter is not a respondent identified above but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be equal to the respondent-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for that producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the all-others estimated weighted-average dumping margin. These suspension-of-liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of the final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports or sales (or the likelihood of sales) for importation of aluminum sheet from Oman no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that such injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, and all cash deposits posted will be refunded and suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an AD order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, AD duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Orders

This notice will serve as a final reminder to the parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination and this notice are issued and published pursuant to sections 735(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(c). Due to technical issues, James Maeder, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, is signing this final determination on behalf of Ryan Majerus, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations.

Dated: March 1, 2021.

James Maeder,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are common alloy aluminum sheet, which is a flat-rolled aluminum product having a thickness of 6.3 mm or less, but greater than 0.2 mm, in coils or cut-to-length, regardless of width. Common alloy sheet within the scope of this investigation includes both not clad aluminum sheet, as well as multi-alloy, clad aluminum sheet. With respect to not clad aluminum sheet, common alloy sheet is manufactured from a 1XXX-, 3XXX-, or 5XXX-series alloy as designated by the Aluminum Association. With respect to multi-alloy, clad aluminum sheet, common alloy sheet is produced from a 3XXX-series core, to which cladding layers are applied to either one or both sides of the core. The use of a proprietary alloy or non-proprietary alloy that is not specifically registered by the Aluminum Association as a discrete 1XXX-, 3XXX-, or 5XXX-series alloy, but that otherwise has a chemistry that is consistent with these designations, does not remove an otherwise in-scope product from the scope.

Common alloy sheet may be made to ASTM specification B209–14 but can also be made to other specifications. Regardless of specification, however, all common alloy sheet meeting the scope description is included in the scope. Subject merchandise includes common alloy sheet that has been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to annealing, tempering, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of this investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the common alloy sheet.

Excluded from the scope of this investigation is aluminum can stock, which is suitable for use in the manufacture of aluminum beverage cans, lids of such cans, or tabs used to open such cans. Aluminum can stock is produced to gauges that range from 0.200 mm to 0.292 mm, and has an H-19, H-41, H-48, H-39, or H-391 temper. In addition, aluminum can stock has a lubricant applied to the flat surfaces of the can stock to facilitate its movement through machines used in the manufacture of beverage cans. Aluminum can stock is properly classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 7606.12.3045 and 7606.12.3055.

Where the nominal and actual measurements vary, a product is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set for the above.

Common alloy sheet is currently classifiable under HTSUS subheadings 7606.11.3060, 7606.11.6000, 7606.12.3096, 7606.12.6000, 7606.91.3095, 7606.91.6095, 7606.92.3035, and 7606.92.6095. Further, merchandise that falls within the scope of this investigation may also be entered into the United States under HTSUS subheadings 7606.11.3030, 7606.12.3015, 7606.12.3025, 7606.12.3035, 7606.12.3091, 7606.91.3055, 7606.91.6055, 7606.92.3025, 7606.92.6055, 7607.11.9090. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background

- III. Changes from the Preliminary Determination
- IV. Critical Circumstances
- V. Discussion of the Issues
 - Comment 1: Particular Market Situation
 - Comment 2: Total Adverse Facts Available
 - Comment 3: Major Input Adjustment
 - Comment 4: Cost of Production and Market Price
 - Comment 5: Third-Country Market
 - Comment 6: Constructed Value Profit
 - Comment 7: Affiliation
 - Comment 8: Calculation Adjustments
- VI. Recommendation

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